



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MURAKAMI et al.

Atty. Ref.: 249-230

Serial No. 09/482,731

Group: 1771

Filed: January 14, 2000

Examiner: H. Vo

For: SOUND ABSORBING STRUCTURE

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February 27, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2001, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

1. (Twice Amended) A sound absorbing structure comprising at least one porous member including a plurality of holes, wherein said holes are at least one kind of through holes, that penetrate through the porous member, and/or non-through holes, that extend